



February 15, 2013

Registration and Title Bulletin # 002-13

Registration and Title System

TO: All County Tax Assessor-Collectors

SUBJECT: Introduction to Registration and Title System (RTS) Version 7.1.0

PURPOSE

To inform you of changes to RTS.

DETAILS

There are several updates to RTS that are covered in the RTS Version 7.1.0 Release Notes. The statewide release will be distributed the evening of Sunday, February 24, 2013 and will be available for use on Monday, February 25, 2013. Thank you for your contribution to the elements of this release. The following are some of the exciting new changes included in this release:

Data Purification

The Data Purification Project is an ongoing effort focused on cleaning up existing motor vehicle data and preventing the migration of inaccurate data into RTS. When processing a title transaction, selecting the "No VIN" option will generate an error message advising the user that a VIN is required when a record is located in the system based on the license plate number entered. The purpose of this enhancement is to prevent an incorrect transfer of title based on the license plate number.

Recycling of Portions of the Vehicle Identification Number (VIN)

As mentioned in previous RTBs on this subject, manufacturers began recycling portions of VINs (10th digits) in 2011. This creates issues with the RTS VIN Decoding Program, which may result in a new vehicle being titled as one that is 30 years or older. In some cases, only the model year is affected, but in others a vehicle may be populated with both incorrect year and make.

To reduce the amount of vehicle information being collected in error, RTS will no longer automatically populate the year field on new vehicle titles; so, users must be sure to enter the correct year manually, and the make, if necessary.

Modify Placard Event

This is a new event created for this release, which provides the county with the capability to make changes or corrections to an existing disabled person placard. The fields that can now be modified include Applicant ID, Applicant ID Type and the Name of Disabled Person or Institution.

Currently, when there is a need to make a correction to the information entered by the county or if a customer's name changes due to marriage or divorce, the county has to contact the RTS Help Desk. This is a multi-step process and often takes a couple of days to finalize the correction. We are very excited about the new functionality that will now be available to the counties via a security controlled event.

Non-Resident Agricultural Permit (NAP)

There are several new changes to the issuance of NAPs. Prior to this release, customers received a self-adhesive permit that was to be affixed to the inside of the windshield, along with a RTS receipt. These permits could not be queried by law enforcement, counties or regional service centers, which is different from other permits. With this release, customers will no longer be receiving the self-adhesive permits. RTS will now issue a NAP receipt with a system generated permit number that can be queried, which is more consistent with other temporary permits. The NAP receipt will include a pre-printed message to the applicant instructing them to carry the receipt in the vehicle.

Additionally, we have combined the *Weight Affidavit and Application for the Temporary Registration of a Nonresident Commercial Vehicle*, Form VTR-52-B and the *Application for the Movement of Farm Commodities Produced Outside of Texas by a Nonresident*, Form VTR-52-C. Applicants should use the renamed *Application for Movement of Agricultural Products by a Nonresident*, Form VTR-52-B (Rev. 2/2013) from this point forward for all NAPs. The new application is available on the TxDMV Web site.

You will be instructed on how to handle any existing inventory of the pre-printed (self-adhesive) permits in the coming weeks.

Multi-Year Report

With the increasing number of registrants opting to renew their registration for 24 and 36 months, we realized the importance of providing reports that detail these transactions. We are pleased to announce with this release that the counties will begin receiving two new reports on the 7th working day of each month, unless the 7th day is a Monday. The reports are 4992 Multi-Yr 24 Month Detail Registration Report and 4995 Multi-Yr 36 Month Detail Registration Report.

Internet Vehicle Title and Registration System (IVTRS) Registration Renewal

To encourage online renewal, IVTRS will allow for renewal of vehicle registration up to six months after the registration expiration date, provided that no citation has been issued for expired registration. Customers will be asked if they have received a citation for expired registration; if a citation has been issued by law enforcement, the customer will be informed that the vehicle does not qualify for online renewal and to contact the county for assistance. A full 12 months of registration and other applicable fees will be collected at time of renewal and the month of expiration will remain the same.

COUNTY ACTION

See the attached RTS Version 7.1.0 Release Notes for detailed information and processing instructions for the elements of this release. Information can also be found on the TxDMV website under Resources for Tax Assessor-Collectors at www.TxDMV.gov.

CONTACT

If you have any questions, please contact your local TxDMV Regional Service Center.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Randy Elliston". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Randy" and last name "Elliston" clearly distinguishable.

Randy Elliston, Director
Vehicle Titles and Registration Division

Attachment